

LLANWRTYD WELLS

Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1938.

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LLANDILO :

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# Llanwrtyd Wells Urban Sanitary Authority.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1938.

To the Llanwrtyd Wells Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg herewith to submit the Annual Report for 1938.

## 1—Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres)	...	...	1673
Population (Registrar General)	...	...	662
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	194
Number of families or separate occupiers	...	...	195
Rateable value	...	...	£3874
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	£15/5/3

## 2—Vital Statistics (extracts from).

Births—	Total.	Male.	Female.
(i) Legitimate	3	...	...
(ii) Illegitimate	0	...	...

Birth rate per 1000 population—4·53.

Still Births—Nil.

Deaths—(i) From Puerperal causes	...	Nil.
(ii) Other causes	...	5

Total	...	5
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Death-rate per 1000 population—7·55.

Adjusted death-rate—5·66.

Death of Infants under 1 year—1.

## Vital Statistics.

Population.—The Registrar General gives 662 as the resident population in the middle of 1938.

The “natural increase,” that is, the excess of births over deaths, was a negative quantity, viz. —2.

Birth-rate—There were 3 births in 1938. all legitimate, giving a rate of 4·53 per 1000.

Death Rate—There were 5 deaths, giving a death-rate of 7·55

The adjusted death-rate for comparison with that of England and Wales was 5·66 per 1000.

The causes of death are detailed in Table II.

Infant Mortality.—There was 1 death under 12 months of age, giving a rate per 1000 births of 333.

## Section B.—General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

1.—Public Health Officer.—Medical Officer of Health, David J. Jones, M.B., B Ch., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor—Rhys Williams.

2.—Nursing in the Home and Hospital provision, &c.

There has been no change during the year regarding Hospital and Nursing arrangements. Ambulance facilities remain unchanged. The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held periodically, with Dr. Sutherland Williams, Assistant County Medical Officer in attendance.

3.—Laboratory Facilities.

The services of the following Laboratory facilities are utilised by the Urban District :—

- (i) Chemical Research Association.
- (ii) The Aberystwyth Agricultural Laboratory.
- (iii) Swansea Laboratory.

4.—Legislation in Force.

There has been no alteration in Local Acts or Local Orders during the year—neither has there been alteration in the Bye-laws.

## Section C.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

### 1.—Water.

The supply of water during the year was maintained in a good quantity and quality.

### 2.—River Pollution and Sewage Disposal.

The river Irfon has shown steady improvement in the past year, as the majority of the houses, previously discharging raw sewage into the river, have connected up to the town sewer. The sewage disposal works are functioning satisfactorily.

#### Closet Accommodation.

With few exceptions, houses have water closets.

#### Scavenging.

The scavenging of the town is carried out by contract. Collection of refuse is carried out thrice weekly in the summer season and twice weekly during the remainder of the year.

#### Schools.

The Council School has been inspected and the sanitary conditions found to be fairly satisfactory. The School lavatories are not connected to the sewer, pail closets being in use. There was no School closure for Infectious Disease during 1938. Factories.

There are two small woollen factories in the area which have been inspected and found to be satisfactory from a sanitary point of view and no case of vocational disease has been reported. No proceedings have been necessary under the Factories Acts.

## Section D.—Housing.

### 1. *Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year—*

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	81
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	92
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	Nil

3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	4
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	7
2.	<i>Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices—</i>	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	3
3.	<i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year—</i>	
	A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ... ..	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
	B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	15
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ... ..	12
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil



C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the  
Housing Act, 1936 :

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of<br>which Demolition Orders were made ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in<br>pursuance of Demolition Orders ...    | Nil |

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing  
Act, 1936 :

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or under-<br>ground rooms in respect of which Closing<br>Orders were made ...   | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or under-<br>ground rooms in respect of which Closing<br>Orders were determined, the tenement or<br>room having been rendered fit ... | Nil |

4. *Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—*

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (a).—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the<br>end of the year ...  | Nil |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...  | Nil |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...  | Nil |
| (b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported<br>during the year ...  | Nil |
| (c).—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved<br>during the year ...  | Nil |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases  | Nil |
| (d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-<br>houses have again become overcrowded<br>after the Local Authority have taken<br>steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |
| (e).—Any other particulars with respect to over-<br>crowding conditions upon which the<br>Medical Officer of Health may consider<br>it desirable to report ...              | Nil |

## Section E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

### A.—Milk Supply.

Number of registered milk vendors in the district—12.

Number of samples of milk taken—10.

The number of milk vendors registered with the Local Authority remains at 12, the same as in 1937. Samples were taken from vendors and on the whole were satisfactory bacteriologically.

### B.—Meat and other Foods.

Number of Slaughter-houses in the district—3.

Number of Butcher Shops—3.

Total number of inspections of Butcher Shops and Slaughter Houses during the year—48.

The inspection of Slaughter Houses and Meat has been carried out systematically during the year. The Meat has been found to be of good quality.

Number of Bakehouses in district—3.

Number of inspections made to these premises—24.

The Bake-houses are in good structural condition and are kept in a clean condition always.

### C.—Adulteration.

No action taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928 ; The Artificial Cream Act 1929 ; The Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations 1923 and 1927 ; The Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations 1923 and 1927 ; and The Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations 1925 to 1927.

### D.—Chemical and Bacteriological examination of Food.

Any work required in the examination of Food is carried out by the Aberystwyth Agricultural Laboratories.

### E.—Nutrition.

No steps taken with regard to lectures, &c., to the public on importance of Nutrition. No investigations made.

### F.—Shell-Fish (Molluscan.)

There are no Shell-fish layings in the district.



## Section F.—Prevalence of and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1931—

	Small Pox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1931	...	...	2	...	2	...	..
1932	...	...	2	...	2	...	...
1933	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
1934	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1935	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
1936	...	...	3	...	2	...	...
1937	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Cases of Infectious Disease have been, up to the present, nursed at home, there being no Infectious Diseases Hospital within easy reach of the District with which any arrangement for admission of cases of Infectious Diseases might be made. The question of a County Hospital for Infectious Diseases is at present being debated. Up to the present no scheme for such a Hospital has been approved, although this Authority has consented to participate in it.

The importance of the adequate isolation of cases of Infectious Disease in Llanwrtyd Wells from the general public's health point of view is obvious, and is even more so when one considers that in the summer time numerous visitors are present in the town, thus increasing the population and rendering the liability to spread of infection much easier.

Small Pox—Nil.

Diphtheria—(i) Number of cases—Nil.

(ii) Number of cases removed to Hospital—Nil

(iii) Number of deaths—Nil.

So far as I am aware the Schlick Test has not been used in the district.

There is no scheme in the district for the immunisation of the public or school-children against Diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever—(i) Number of cases—Nil.

(ii) Number of cases removed to Hospital—  
Nil.

(iii) Number of deaths—Nil.

I have no record of the Dick Test having been used or of any method of artificial immunisation.

Enteric Fever—Nil.

Pneumonia—Nil.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Nil.

Encephalitis Lethargica—Nil.

Non-notifiable Infectious Disease—Not known.

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Tuberculosis—

Number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified in the year—

(i) Pulmonary—2.

(ii) Non-Pulmonary—0.

Deaths from Tuberculosis—Nil.

Age Periods.	Pulmonary.		New Cases. Non-Pulmonary.		Deaths. Pulmonary.		Deaths. Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and Upwards	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...

The following shews in tabular form the cases notified and deaths occurring since 1931 :—

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Cases ...	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Deaths ...	2	2	0	0	1	2	1	0

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of whole district during 1938 and previous years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Nett Deaths.			
		Nett.		Under 1 year.		At all ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1000 nett births.	Number.	Rate.
1931	723	6	8·2	1	166·6	12	16·5
1932	740	8	10·8	1	125·0	20	27·0
1933	709	5	7·0	0	0	14	19·7
1934	697	8	11·4	1	142·8	8	11·4
1935	693	8	11·5	1	142·8	12	17·3
1936	672	8	11·9	0	0	11	16·3
1937	670	2	2·9	0	0	6	8·9
1938	662	3	4·53	1	333	5	7·55

## Vital Statistics in England and Wales 1938.

Birth-rate, Death-rate and Infantile Mortality during the year 1938  
Annual Rate per 1000 population.

	Live Births.	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under 1 year per 1000 births
England and Wales	15·1	0·60	11·6	53
125 Great Towns—including London	15	0·65	11·7	57
148 lesser towns	15·4	0·60	11·0	51
London	13·4	0·48	11·4	57

TABLE II.

## Causes of Deaths during 1938.

Causes.					M.	F.
All Causes	...	...	...	...	2	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage		...	...	...	1	0
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, &c.					1	0
Senility	...	...	...	...	0	1
Other defined Diseases		...	...	...	0	2

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

DAVID J. JONES,

Medical Officer of Health.

## Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector for year ending 31st December, 1938.

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I beg to submit my Annual Report as follows :—

The number of Dwelling Houses in your area is 194. The structural condition of these, with a few exceptions, is very good, practically all the houses are built for the accommodation of visitors during the season.

I inspected 81 houses, making 93 inspections.

15 Statutory Notices were served calling upon Owners to connect House Drains to the Council Sewer, of these 12 were connected during the year.

Three Informal Notices were served, in each case the necessary work was carried out. All the houses with five exceptions have been connected.

No case of Infectious Disease have occurred, no disinfection was necessary.

The number of Slaughter-houses is three, and three Butchers Shops, I inspected these premises and examined the Meat which I found to be of good quality. The number of inspections for this purpose was 48.

There are three Bake-houses, to which I paid 24 inspections the Premises in each case are in good order and are well kept.

There are two Woollen Factories in your Area, to which I paid eight inspections during the year, I found them to be clean and well kept.

The number of Milk Vendors registered is 12. Samples of Milk were taken for Bacteriological Analysis at the University College, Aberystwyth, and were on the whole satisfactory.

Signed,

**RHYS WILLIAMS,**

Sanitary Inspector.





